

to contain, spirits when the appropriate TTB officer believes that the required tax on those spirits has not been paid or determined or that the removal of the container is in violation of law or the provisions of this part. The appropriate TTB officer will hold the container at a safe place until it is determined whether the detained property is subject to forfeiture.

(b) *Limitation.* A detention under paragraph (a) of this section may not exceed 72 hours without process of law or intervention of the appropriate TTB officer. However, the detained container may be kept on the premises beyond the 72-hour period without process of law or intervention if the person possessing the container immediately before its detention executes a waiver of this 72-hour limitation on detention of the container.

(26 U.S.C. 5311)

§ 19.18 Samples for the United States.

TTB officers are authorized to take samples of spirits, denatured spirits, articles, wines, or other materials from a distilled spirits plant for analysis, testing, or to determine whether the product complies with the law and regulations. When TTB removes a sample from a plant, TTB will give the proprietor a receipt for the sample.

(26 U.S.C. 5201, 5203, 5214, 5362)

§ 19.19 Discontinuance of storage facilities.

If TTB determines that a proprietor's bonded storage facility for spirits is unsafe or unfit for use, or causes excessive waste or loss of spirits, TTB can require that the proprietor discontinue using the facility. Further, TTB can require the transfer of the spirits stored in the facility to another storage facility. The transfer will take place at such time and under such supervision as TTB may require, and will be at the expense of the owner or warehouseman of the spirits. If the owner or warehouseman fails to transfer the spirits within the prescribed time or to pay the expense of the transfer, as ascertained and determined by the appropriate TTB officer, the spirits may be seized and sold. TTB will first apply the proceeds of such sale to the pay-

ment of the taxes due on the spirits and then to the cost and expense of the sale and removal, and the remaining balance, if any, will be paid over to the owner or warehouseman.

(26 U.S.C. 5236)

§ 19.20 Installation of meters, tanks, and other apparatus.

The appropriate TTB officer may require the proprietor to install meters, tanks, pipes, or any other apparatus at the proprietor's plant if that officer decides that the equipment is necessary for the protection of the revenue. If the proprietor refuses or fails to install any such apparatus when instructed to do so, the proprietor will not be permitted to conduct business as a distilled spirits plant.

(26 U.S.C. 5552)

ALTERNATE METHODS OR PROCEDURES AND EXPERIMENTAL OPERATIONS

§ 19.26 Alternate methods or procedures.

(a) *General.* The appropriate TTB officer may approve the use of an alternate method or procedure that varies from the regulatory requirements in this part if the proprietor shows good cause for its use and the alternate method or procedure:

- (1) Is not contrary to law;
- (2) Will not have the effect of waiving an existing regulatory requirement;
- (3) Is consistent with the purpose and effect of the method or procedure prescribed in this part;
- (4) Provides equal security to the revenue; and
- (5) Will not cause an increase in cost to the Government and will not hinder TTB's administration of this part.

(b) *Exceptions.* TTB will not authorize the use of an alternate method or procedure relating to the giving of any bond, or to the assessment, payment, or collection of tax.

(c) *Prior approvals.* Alternate methods or procedures in effect prior to April 18, 2011, which are not contrary to the regulations in this part, are preserved until renewed unless revoked by operation of law due to the enactment of